

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (New) A recombinant DNA vector comprising all or a portion of *tmbA* (SEQ ID NO:12), wherein said portion comprises at least a polyketide synthase domain.

5. (New) The vector defined in claim 4, further comprising all or a portion of *tmbB* (SEQ ID NO:14) or *tmbC* (SEQ ID NO:16) or both, wherein said portion comprises at least a polyketide synthase domain.

6. (New) The vector defined in claim 4, further comprising one or more ORFs selected from the group consisting of ORF1 (SEQ ID NO:2), ORF2a (SEQ ID NO:4), ORF2b (SEQ ID NO:6), ORF3 (SEQ ID NO:8), ORF4 (SEQ ID NO:10), ORF5a (SEQ ID NO:18), ORF5b (SEQ ID NO:20), ORF6 (SEQ ID NO:22), ORF7 (SEQ ID NO:24), and ORF8 (SEQ ID NO:26).

7. (New) The vector defined in claim 5, further comprising one or more ORFs selected from the group consisting of ORF1 (SEQ ID NO:2), ORF2a (SEQ ID NO:4), ORF2b (SEQ ID NO:6), ORF3 (SEQ ID NO:8), ORF4 (SEQ ID NO:10), ORF5a (SEQ ID NO:18), ORF5b (SEQ ID NO:20), ORF6 (SEQ ID NO:22), ORF7 (SEQ ID NO:24), and ORF8 (SEQ ID NO:26).

8. (New) The vector defined in claim 4, comprising the *tmbA* gene cluster (SEQ ID NO:1).

9. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase, which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector defined in claim 4, under conditions wherein at least said portion of the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.

10. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase, which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector defined in claim 5, under conditions wherein at least said portion of the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.

11. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase, which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector defined in claim 6, under conditions wherein at least said portion of the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.

12. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase, which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector defined in claim 7, under conditions wherein at least said portion of the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.

13. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase, which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector defined in claim 8, under conditions wherein the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.